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Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /075 W
---------- 080725
R 131856Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7870
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 04617

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, LY
SUBJECT: PM JALLUD'S VISIT TO FRANCE

REFS: (A) TRIPOLI 190; (B) PARIS 3869 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. IN DISCUSSION FEB. 12, QUAI NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS OFFICER MEUNIER TOLD US THAT NO WORD ABOUT JALLUD'S FEB. 10 - 11 CONVERSATIONS WITH GISCARD AND PM CHIRAC HAD YET SEEPED DOWN TO WORKING LEVEL (AND MIGHT NEVER DO SO). MEUNIER CLAIMED TO KNOW ONLY THAT JALLUD HAD REQUESTED LARGER FRENCH OIL PURCHASES FROM LIBYA AND THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED SECSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FRANCOIS-PONCET WOULD SHORTLY GO TO LIBYA TO PREPARE THE VISIT OF CHIRAC PLANNED FOR THE END OF MARCH. MEUNIER ALSO PROTESTED IGNORANCE OF ANY SPECIAL LIBYAN UNHAPPINESS WITH THE SOVIETS (REF A). HE INDICATED JALLUD'S VISIT CAME ABOUT THROUGH A LAST-MINUTE LIBYAN
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2. IN PRESS STATEMENTS, JALLUD SAID DISCUSSIONS INCLUDED BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE SAHARA, COMOROS, THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, THE TFAI AND THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. A FRENCH SPOKESMAN SAID THE TALKS HAD BEEN PRINCIPALLY ON POLITICAL SUBJECTS AND THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND AFRICA, INCLUDING DJIBOUTI AND THE SAHARA, AS WELL AS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS. CHIRAC NOTED TO THE PRESS LIBYA'S IMPORTANCE AS A FRENCH CUSTOMER AND THE RECENT SIGNATURE OF A CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTING AN 800 MILLION FRANC CEMENT PLANT.

3. COMMENT: THE MORE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, SUCH AS MILITARY AND OIL SUPPLIES, PROBABLY WILL BE EXAMINED MORE DEEPLY DURING CHIRAC'S VISIT TO TRIPOLI. MEANWHILE, WE SHALL TRY AGAIN TO GET A READING ON FRENCH IMPRESSIONS OF LIBYAN THINKING ABOUT THE USSR, SAHARA, ALGERIA AND THE TFAI.
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